

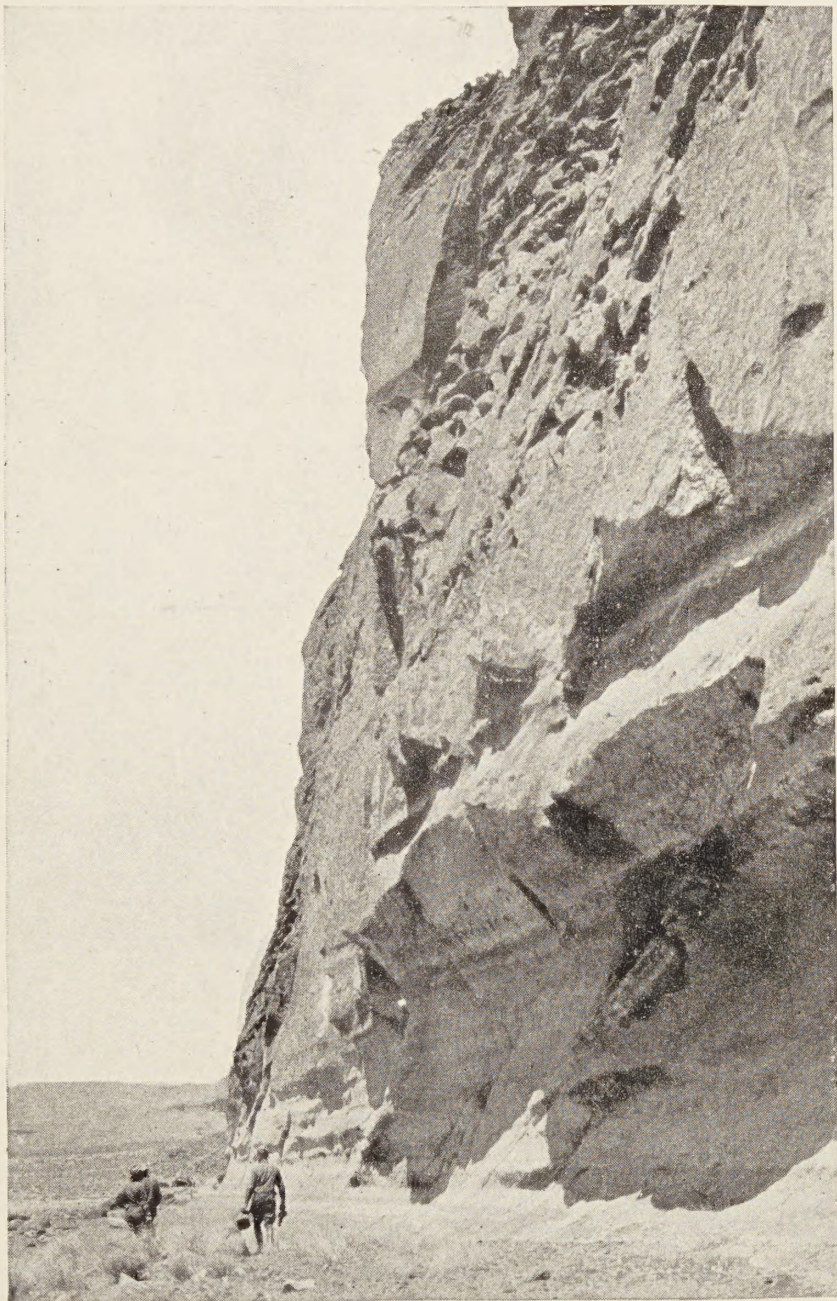
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MODOC  
NATIONAL FOREST  
CALIFORNIA



F-188002

Picture Rocks, Lava Beds National Monument, Modoc National Forest.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
CALIFORNIA REGION

MODOC  
NATIONAL FOREST  
CALIFORNIA



MODOC BATTLEFIELD MONUMENT

Erected and dedicated to the heroism of Gen. Edward R. S. Canby, other officers, soldiers, and pioneer settlers who sacrificed their lives on this battlefield during the Modoc War.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
CALIFORNIA REGION

MF-10, R. 5



# NATIONAL FOREST VISITORS

*Free public use  
of National Forests is invited*

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Visitors to the Modoc National Forest are required to observe the following rules:

1. A camp-fire permit must be secured before building any fire on national forest land, including fire in stoves burning wood, kerosene, or gasoline. The nearest forest officer will issue a permit to you without charge.

2. Every camping party in the national forests must be equipped with a shovel and an ax per vehicle or pack train. Shovel, with blade at least 8 inches wide, and an over-all length of 36 inches; ax, not less than 26 inches long over all, with head weighing 2 pounds or more. Both of these tools to be in serviceable condition. All camping parties will be expected to obtain these tools before entering the national forests.

3 During the fire season smoking is prohibited in the national forests, except in camps, at places of habitation, and in special posted areas. Smokers must be careful to extinguish their lighted matches, cigars and cigarettes, and pipe heels. Watch for "No Smoking" and "Smoke Here" signs.

4. In periods of high fire hazard, camping and camp or picnic fires may be restricted to posted camp grounds, and part or all of the national forests may be closed to public use and travel. Watch for "Closed Area" signs.

5. Build small fires. Clear an area not less than 10 feet in diameter before starting a fire.

6. Never leave a fire without totally extinguishing it with a plentiful supply of water.

7. Keep your camp clean. Where garbage pits and incinerators are not provided, burn or bury all garbage and refuse.

8. Do not pollute the springs, streams, or lakes by insanitary acts.

9. Observe the State fish and game laws.

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YOUR COOPERATION IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF THESE  
REGULATIONS IS REQUESTED



# MODOC NATIONAL FOREST

## CALIFORNIA



The Modoc National Forest, embracing 1,498,989 acres of Government land in Modoc, Lassen, Shasta, and Siskiyou Counties, lies in the extreme northeastern part of California, bordering the Oregon line on the north and having for its eastern boundary the desert-like hills and plains of western Nevada. It derives its name from the local Indian tribe, called the "Moa Docks" by the Klamath Indians, the words meaning literally "southerner" and "near."

### HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

Within and adjacent to the Modoc National Forest are many evidences of the struggle between the white man and the red man. Much of the frontier history of this part of the old West has been forever lost and many places where important events occurred are unknown. In recent years, however, officers of the Modoc Forest have accurately located and marked many historic spots so that they will be preserved for future generations.

The famous Applegate Trail to the Willamette Valley, laid out in 1846 by Lindsay Applegate, traverses the Modoc Forest east and west, and the Lassen Trail, blazed by Peter Lassen, crossed this country from north to south. Both of these lanes of emigrant travel were marked by massacres and hard-fought battles which occurred in the fifties and sixties. These trails invaded the hunting grounds of the Paiute, Modoc, and Pit Tribes, and the Indians waged a bitter and merciless warfare to retain their tribal domain, a land known in their traditions as "The Smiles of God."

Along the route of the old emigrant trails in the Modoc country are names which recall pioneer days when this region was known as the "Dark and Bloody Ground of the Pacific." At a place called "Bloody Point" almost 100 members of an emigrant train were killed in 1850, and several other fights took place in this same locality. Fandango Valley is replete with early western history. It was the scene of several battles between the Indians and settlers or troops, and an Indian massacre here wiped out a covered-wagon train.

A few miles south of Alturas is Crook's Canyon, where in 1867 a small force of cavalry under Gen. George Crook fought a band of Indians three days and finally defeated it badly. Outnumbered two to one by the Indians, almost half of the soldiers were killed or wounded in a desperate battle in which the commanding officer fought with a carbine beside his men. The graves of the troopers killed in this fight are located on the western edge of the South Fork Valley.

The central scenes of the Modoc War of 1872-73, when the Modoc Tribe under its leader, Captain Jack, made a last stand against white aggression, were staged in the western



part of the present Modoc National Forest in what is now the Lava Beds National Monument. Here over 100 white men, soldiers and volunteers, lost their lives in a 5-months' struggle—one of the fiercest Indian wars of western history.

### ACCESSIBILITY

Almost the entire area of the Modoc National Forest is accessible by automobile. More than 1,200 miles of road, varying all the way from macadamized highways to 9-foot dirt roads cut through the timber, are maintained by the



F-208185

Cedar Pass Road in the Warner Mountains, Modoc National Forest.

State, county, and Forest Service. Hundreds of additional miles of roads and trails, opening up large areas of virgin territory to the tourist, hunter, and camper, have been constructed in recent years by the Forest Service for fire-prevention purposes. The main artery of travel, on which practically all the roads converge, is the State highway running from the Nevada line to Redding, and known as the Redding-Alturas Highway. This road is open all the year, and the entire distance, 153 miles, can be traversed in high gear by the average car.

This highway continues to Surprise Valley and on to the California-Nevada boundary. Another main forest highway is under construction between Canby, on the Redding-Alturas Highway, and Klamath Falls, Oreg.

Alturas, the county seat of Modoc County and the headquarters of the Modoc Forest, is a town of 2,500 inhabitants. It is located on the Southern Pacific Railroad system between Reno, Nev., and Klamath Falls, Oreg. The main line of the Great Northern Railroad traverses the Modoc Forest, connecting with a branch of the Western Pacific Railroad at Bieber. Alturas is accessible by improved highways from all directions, including the Yellowstone cut-off between California and Boise, Idaho.

**Sportsmen—During the deer hunting season an ax and a shovel per automobile is required of all hunters and campers entering the Modoc Forest.**



## FOREST RESOURCES

The Modoc National Forest contains approximately 3½ billion feet of merchantable Government timber. On privately-owned land within the forest boundary there is 6½ billion feet of timber. Ponderosa pine forms about 75 percent of the total stand. Sugar pine, white fir, incense cedar, and other species make up the remainder.

The Modoc Forest is a part of the extensive ponderosa pine region of northern California, characterized by foresters as one of the finest stands of merchantable timber of this species in the State. The forest is fairly open, with ponderosa pine in almost pure stands on the plateaus, and white fir and incense cedar on the shaded slopes and at higher elevations.

Logging operations on Government land in the Modoc Forest now cut an average total of 20 million board feet annually. This is expected to increase to more than 50 million feet in the near future.



F-208156

A typical ponderosa pine timber stand in the Modoc National Forest.

Before an extensive program of timber sales is started on any national forest, a careful survey is made of its timber resources and a plan of management prescribed which insures a constant supply of timber for the communities and industries dependent upon the forest. The mature timber is then sold under competitive bid at a fair price. All green timber to be cut is first marked by an experienced forest officer, and the removal of timber and the disposal of slash is also under his supervision, so that the least possible damage is done to the standing trees and young growth. In marking timber a sufficient number of selected seed trees is left on each logging unit to assure natural reforestation of the area and to form the basis of a future crop.

In addition to the stand of merchantable saw timber, the Modoc Forest contains what is probably the largest unbroken body of western juniper in the United States. This occupies

Don't be satisfied with being careful with fire yourself. See that the rest of your party and your neighbors are careful, too.



a large plateau region known as the Devil's Garden, lying north of Alturas and the Pit River Valley, and covers about 300,000 acres. Though juniper wood is not suited for lumber, it is used extensively for fence posts and fuel. Experimental operations by a large pencil company have demonstrated the suitability of the wood for pencil purposes, and in time it will come into its own for this use.

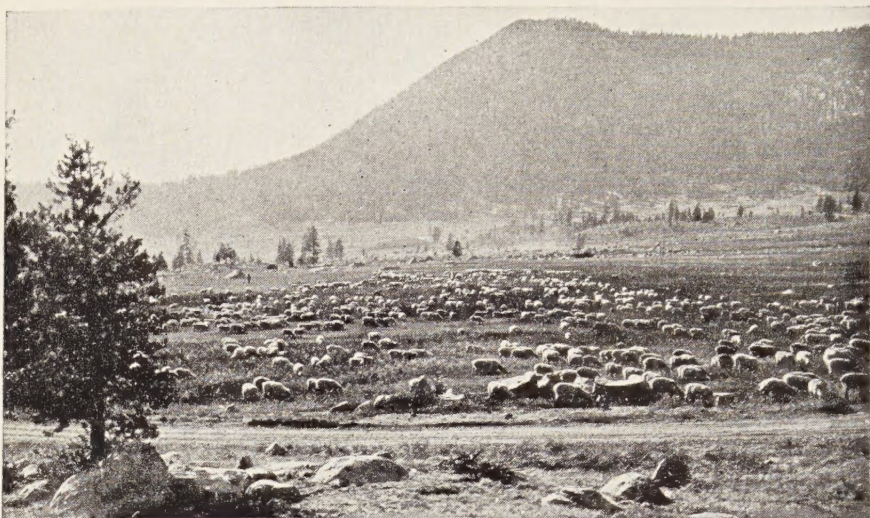


Typical timber stand in western part of Modoc National Forest.

The Modoc Forest includes every type of mountain country, from peaks of 10,000 feet elevation to level plateaus of pine timber. The North and South Forks of Pit River have their headwaters within the forest and flow through wide mountain valleys. Pit River is one of the main tributaries of the Sacramento River and an important source of hydroelectric power. Adjacent to the forest are several large



valleys—Goose Lake, Surprise, and Tule Lake—noted for their agricultural crops. The most important industry of this region, however, is stock raising.



F-258003

More than 90,000 head of sheep are grazed each year on the Modoc National Forest.

The Modoc is the leading grazing forest in California, furnishing range for approximately 94,000 head of sheep and 31,500 cattle and horses owned by some 315 permittees residing in the valleys adjacent to the ranges. The livestock industry is the commercial backbone of this section. It is estimated that 12,000 head of beef cattle, 80,000 lambs, and a million pounds of wool are annually shipped to outside markets.



F-48592A

The Modoc is the leading grazing forest in California and supports 31,500 head of cattle and horses each season.

Grazing on the forest ranges is so regulated as to protect and conserve the use of all national forest lands adapted to forage production and to perpetuate the local livestock industry through proper care and improvement of grazing lands. The issuing of grazing permits by the Forest Service

Under State and Federal laws, a fine of not more than \$500, or a jail sentence, may result from willful or negligent setting of fires in a national forest.



is based upon the qualifications of the individual applicant. Local stockmen are given the preference in the use of the range. The number of animals, the season of grazing, the class of stock, the area to be grazed, and detailed rules for salting, bedding, etc., are determined and enforced by the Forest Service so as to develop, maintain, and utilize to the highest possible degree the forage resources of the forest. The judicious management of the forest range must continue in harmony with the desired protection and development of all other resources of the forest. Forage and grazing allotments are also regulated so that there may be sufficient feed for deer within the four State game refuges in the forest.



F-263471

Deer are found in all parts of the Modoc National Forest.

Twenty-five percent of the revenue received by the Government from grazing fees, as well as from timber sales, special uses, and other resources of the Modoc National Forest, is returned to the State for distribution to the counties in which the forest is located for use as school and road funds, and an additional 10 percent is expended by the Forest Service on roads and trails within these counties.

### THE SOUTH WARNER PRIMITIVE AREA

In the southern division of the Warner Mountains in the Modoc Forest, 75,000 acres have been set aside as the South Warner Primitive Area. This high mountain region will be maintained as nearly as possible in its natural state for recreation and inspiration, traversable only on foot or with saddle and pack horses. In this area are found mountain peaks rising to almost 10,000 feet elevation, steep, rugged canyons, glacial lakes, and charming mountain meadows. It is a wild and picturesque region and, adding not a little to its charm, is Surprise Valley, with its cultivated farms lying just below and visible from all the higher points of this wilderness.

Throwing away lighted matches or tobacco or other burning material from an automobile or other moving vehicle is prohibited by State law.





F-208180

**Patterson Lake, in the South Warner Primitive Area.**

## **CAMPING**

The entire Modoc National Forest is open to camping. Improved public camp grounds are maintained by the Forest Service at the following points within the forest:

Rush Creek, 9 miles from the town of Adin, just off the Redding-Alturas State Highway; Canby Bridge, on the Redding-Alturas Highway, southwest of the village of Canby; Howard Gulch, west of Canby on the new Alturas-Klamath Falls Forest Highway; Indian Well, in the Lava Beds National Monument, from which point tourists can gain access most easily to the different points in the Modoc Lava Bed region; Upper Deep Creek, near the summit of the Warner Mountains, 8 miles west of the town of Cedarville; Plum Valley, 3 miles east of the village of Davis Creek; Lily

**Thousands will follow you. Leave your camp site as you would like to find it.**

Lake, 7 miles east of the little interstate town of New Pine Creek. In addition to these, a number of small camp grounds have been prepared for the use of hunters.

There are also many other attractive sites throughout the forest where camps may be established along streams or close to springs of clear, cold water. In the western part of the forest, which is noted as a deer-hunting country, water holes are few and far between, and tourists are advised to carry water for use when it is necessary to make a dry camp. As in all mountain regions, the nights in the Modoc Forest are pleasantly cool, no matter how high the temperature may range during the day.



F-215292

Hunters' camp in the Lava Beds region, Modoc National Forest.

The Forest Service maintains several hundred miles of telephone lines on the forest, all connecting with a central station at Alturas. The use of Government telephones at outlying points is free, and in case of emergency, campers can get in touch with the outside world.

## FISHING

Bass and catfish are plentiful in Pit River, and eastern brook, rainbow, and Loch Leven trout are found in the streams and lakes throughout the forest. Practically every stream in the Warner Mountains division of the Modoc Forest affords good fishing. Blue Lake, Lost Lake, and Clear Lake in the southern end of the Warners, and Cave and Lily Lakes in the extreme north end are well stocked with game fish.

Leave a clean camp and a clean record. Unburied garbage, crippled game, and broken laws are poor monuments for tourists and sportsmen to leave behind them.



In addition to the natural lakes, there are many reservoirs or artificial lakes, and these have been stocked with trout by the State Fish and Game Commission and local sportsmen in cooperation with the Forest Service.



F-221259

Lost Lake, in South Warners.

## WILD LIFE

Ducks and geese are to be found throughout the Modoc country. Quail—both mountain and valley—grouse, and sage hen are native birds of this region. There are also several large herds of prong-horned antelope, an animal formerly considered almost extinct in northeastern California. The Modoc Forest, however, is principally noted for its mule deer.

Forest officers estimate the number of Rocky Mountain mule deer in the Modoc Forest at 24,000 head, about 75 percent of the total number existent today in the State of California. These animals are much larger than the blacktail species, bucks occasionally weighing from 300 to 350 pounds, dressed. Their antlers sometimes measure 36 inches from tip to tip.

Though deer are found in all parts of the Modoc National Forest, they are more plentiful in the Happy Camp district west of Canby and north of Big Valley, in the northern end of the Devil's Garden district west of Goose Lake, and in the Rocky Prairie country southwest of Alturas. More than 1,000 bucks, which represent the biggest game-animal hunting west of the Rockies, are bagged annually.

During the deer-hunting season, hunters from all parts of California and neighboring States enjoy a vacation in the Modoc Forest and the thrill of hunting a big mule-deer buck. Comfortable camps may be maintained by deer hunters, and automobile service and supplies of all kinds are available at Alturas, Cedarville, Adin, Lookout, Fort Bidwell, and other towns adjacent to the forest. Well-signed roads traverse the forest in every direction, and it is almost impossible to be more than 3 or 4 miles from a passable automobile road even in the outlying sections.

Four State game refuges are located within the Modoc Forest—1B, in the Badger Spring country; 1N, in the Lava



Beds; 1C, in the Pine Creek region of the Warner Mountains; and 1S, south of Big Valley, in the Hayden Hill country. Clear Lake reservoir, in the northwestern part of the forest, is a Federal bird refuge. No hunting is permitted in either State or Federal refuges and the possession of firearms within their boundaries is prohibited.



Photo by E. R. Sans.

**Antelope in the Modoc Forest region.**

## **LAVA BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT**

In the northwest corner of the Modoc National Forest is the famous Lava Beds National Monument. The monument was proclaimed by President Coolidge in 1925, and is administered by the United States Forest Service. Here, centuries ago, flaming volcanoes belched forth their streams of liquid fire. The cooling process left formations of a grotesque and fantastic nature and created numerous caves.



F-187995

**Entrance to Caldwell Ice Cave, Lava Beds National Monument.**

The entire lava beds country is of mesalike formation, breaking here and there into buttes or cinder cones several hundred feet high. Varicolored rock, blossoming plants and



shrubs, relieved here and there by clumps of pine or juniper, give the landscape a not unpleasing aspect, the plant life forming a grateful contrast to the frowning masses of cinders and lava. Here are found over 100 caves of unusual structure and appearance, many of them containing pools of clear, sweet water; others, rivers of solid ice, some of which never melt.



F-208191

**Mill Creek Falls, near Jess Valley, Modoc National Forest.**

A map folder published by the United States Forest Service and containing a detailed description of the Lava Beds National Monument may be obtained free of charge from the forest supervisor, Alturas, Calif., or from the district rangers on the Modoc National Forest.

**Be a real sportsman. There is more honor in giving the game a square deal than in getting the limit.**



## TO THE CAMPER AND TOURIST

The Forest Service welcomes the tourist, camper, and sportsman to the national forests. Camping, hunting, fishing, and enjoyable vacation facilities are free to all. In return for these privileges forest officers ask that the public observe the laws and regulations governing the national forests, without which these recreation grounds would soon lose their charm and appeal.

The careless acts of campers in leaving unextinguished camp fires, or in throwing away lighted matches and tobacco, often result in great destruction of public property. This is especially true in the Modoc Forest, where a large percentage of the fires in the past have been caused by human carelessness.

Camp-fire permits must be secured before any form of outdoor fire, including fires in stoves burning wood, kerosene, or gasoline, may be built in the Modoc National Forest, and carelessness with fire in the woods is punishable by county, State, and Federal laws.



F-221264

Blue Lake, Modoc National Forest.

During the dangerous fire season, smoking is prohibited on national forest land, except in camps, at places of habitation, and in special posted areas. Each automobile and pack-train party camping in the Modoc National Forest must carry a shovel and ax suitable for fire-fighting purposes.

As the Modoc Forest is a stock country, tourists are urged to use every care not to disturb or molest stock, especially around watering places. In recognition of the rights of stockmen, who pay for the use of the ranges, recreationists should observe the "Golden Rule" and treat the other fellow as they would like to be treated themselves.

Respect farmers' and stockmen's property. Don't disturb stock by camping too close to water. Don't let your dogs run stock. Close gates after you. Put yourself in the farmer's place—if you respect his rights, he will not regard you as an outlaw.





**PETER SCHONCHIN**

**The last Indian survivor of the Modoc War of 1872-73.**

A number of fine camping grounds on the Modoc Forest are on private land, and it is a special concession on the part of the owners that camping is allowed thereon.

At camping places, bury or burn your tin cans and camp refuse, be careful with fire, and see that your neighbors, too, are careful. These simple acts will add to the enjoyment of your own vacation as well as to that of others.

Help to enforce the State game laws. Only a "game hog" will take more than his legal share. Report game violations to the nearest forest officer or game warden.



## HOW TO BUILD A CAMP FIRE

Many people unintentionally start forest fires through improperly built camp fires. When you select the spot for your camp fire, give dead logs and snags a wide berth. In clearing a spot 10 feet in diameter, dig clear down to mineral soil. Just underneath the top layer of pine needles will usually be found a layer of humus, or decaying vegetable matter, several inches deep. A camp fire in this "duff", as it is locally called, will burn and spread to the surrounding forest. Do not pile your fuel supply too close to a camp fire and never leave the fire unattended, even for a few moments. Put it dead out with water and cover it with mineral soil.

## ADMINISTRATION

The Modoc Forest is in charge of a forest supervisor who has his headquarters at Alturas. The forest is divided into five districts, each in charge of a district ranger. The rangers' headquarters are at Cedarville, Willow Ranch, Canby, and Adin, Calif., and Malin, Oreg.

All forest officers will gladly issue free camp-fire permits, give information about the region in which they are located, and, insofar as their duties permit, help to make your trip in the forest an enjoyable one.





## WHAT TO DO WHEN LOST

A clear head will find itself. If everyone remembered this there would be fewer reports of persons lost in the mountains and forests. Loss of mental control is more serious than lack of food, water, or clothing. The man who keeps his head has the best chance to come through in safety.

**The following helpful rules are worth remembering:**

1. Stop, sit down, and try to figure out where you are. Use your head, not your legs.
2. If caught by night, fog, or storm, stop at once and make camp in a sheltered spot. Build a fire in a safe place. Gather plenty of dry fuel.
3. Don't wander about. Travel only downhill. Follow watercourses or ridges.
4. If injured, choose a cleared spot on a promontory and make a signal smoke. The Forest Service fire lookouts or the observers in airplanes may see your smoke.
5. Don't yell, don't run, don't worry, and **DON'T QUIT.**

**A word from the forest rangers to the new camper, hiker, or vacationist:**

It is better to carry a clear head on your shoulders than a big pack on your back. Yet in going alone into the mountains it is well to go prepared for any emergency. A fish line and a few hooks, matches in a waterproof box, a compass, a little concentrated food, and a strong knife should always be carried. A gun may help as a signal—seldom for obtaining food. Above all, keep cool, and the chances are you will come out of the woods on your own feet.

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**IF YOU DON'T KNOW—ASK THE U.S. FOREST RANGER**

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## GOOD MANNERS IN THE FOREST

*A good sportsman, camper, or tourist,  
when he goes into the national forest—*

**First obtains a camp-fire permit.**

**Carries a shovel and ax.**

**Smokes only in camp.**

**Puts his fire dead out with water.**

**Leaves a clean and sanitary camp.**

**Observes the State fish and game laws.**

**Cooperates with the forest rangers in  
reporting and suppressing fires.**

**Preaches what he practices.**

**DO YOU?**



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
R. Y. STUART, FORESTER  
T. W. NORCROSS, CHIEF ENGINEER

# MODOC NATIONAL FOREST

## CALIFORNIA

### MT. DIABLO MERIDIAN

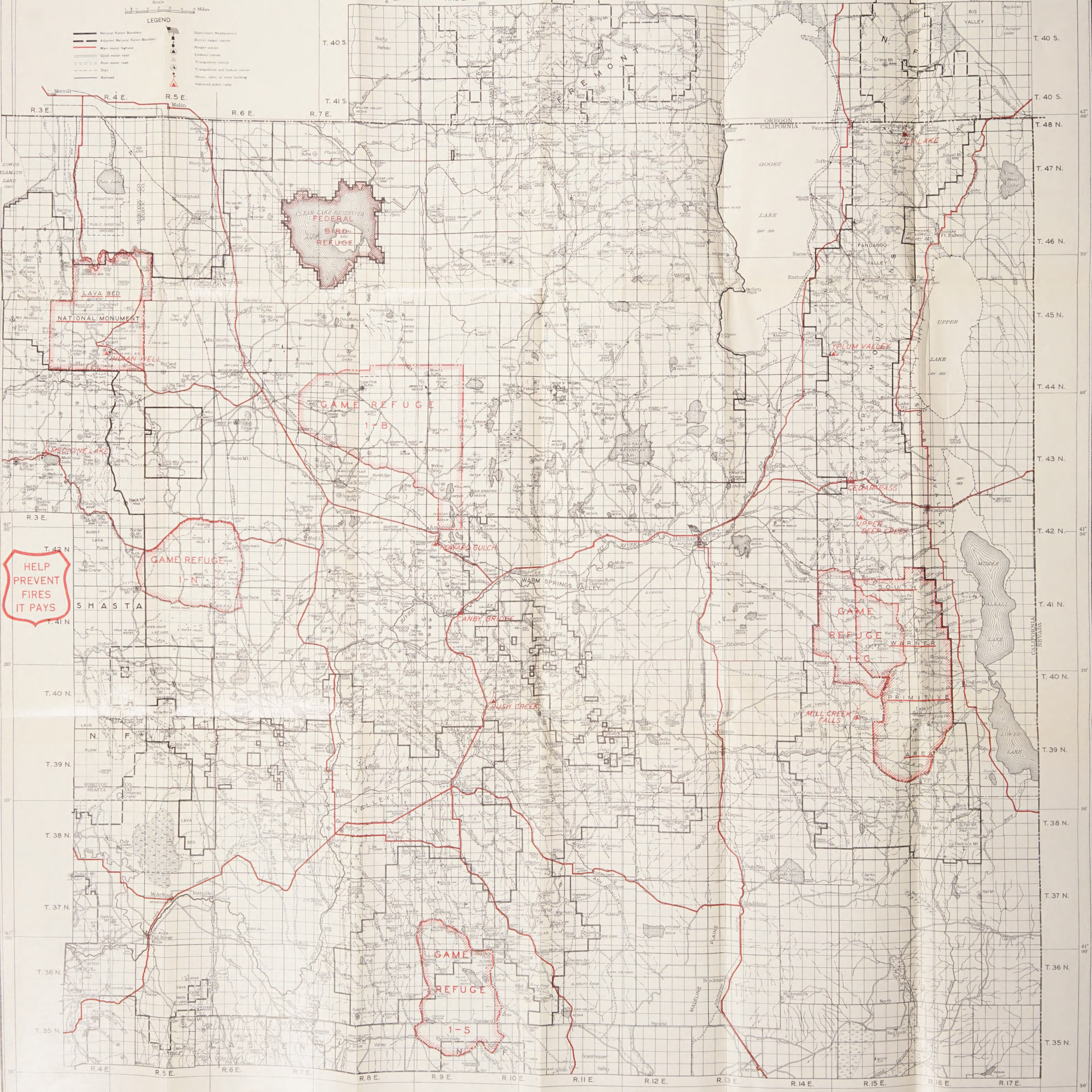
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HELP  
PREVENT  
FIRES  
IT PAYS

Scale 1:25,000

#### LEGEND

- National Forest Boundary
- Adjacent National Forest Boundary
- Main motor highway
- Good motor road
- Poor motor road
- Trail
- Railroad
- Supervisor's Headquarters
- District ranger station
- Ranger station
- Lookout station
- Triangulation station
- Triangulation and lookout station
- House, cabin, or other building
- Improved public camp



HELP  
PREVENT  
FIRES  
IT PAYS